

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: D.A. Slawson et al.

Attorney Docket No.: MSFT112767

Application No.: 09/224,009

Group Art Unit: 2772

Filed: December 31, 1998

Examiner:

Title: VISUAL THESAURUS

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DEC 07 2000

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

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DEC 26 2000

Technology Center 2100

ASSENT OF ASSIGNEE TO ADDITION OF  
A JOINT INVENTOR IN A PATENT APPLICATION UNDER  
(37 C.F.R. § 1.48(a)(4))

The undersigned Assignee of the entire interest in the above-mentioned patent application hereby assents to the addition of Eric L. Brechner erroneously omitted as an inventor as stated in the accompanying petition for correction of inventorship.

Ownership by the assignee is established by the following assignments from all of the inventors, copies of which are attached.

1. An Assignment duly executed by Dean A. Slawson and Tjeerd Hoek of their rights in the invention to Microsoft Corporation recorded on February 19, 1999, at reel 9796, frame 0112.
2. An Assignment duly executed by Eric L. Brechner of his rights in this invention to Microsoft Corporation, which is separately being submitted for recordation.

MICROSOFT CORPORATION

Date: 11-21-00

By: Katie E. Sako

Name: Katie E. Sako

Title: Assistant Secretary

GSK:mgr/nfs

LAW OFFICES OF  
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PC</sup>  
1420 Fifth Avenue  
Suite 2800  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
206.682.8100

## ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, we, Dean A. Slawson and Tjeerd Hoek (hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNORS), having post office addresses of 21016 - N.E. 15th Street, Redmond, Washington 98053 and 6752 Lake Washington Blvd., Apt. B11, Kirkland, Washington 98033, respectively, are the joint inventors of an invention entitled VISUAL THESAURUS, as described and claimed in the specification forming part of an application for United States letters patent, Serial No. 09/224,009 filed on December 31, 1998.

WHEREAS, Microsoft Corporation (hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNEE), a corporation of the State of Washington having a place of business at One Microsoft Way, Redmond, WA 98052, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention and in and to any letters patent that may be granted therefor in the United States and in any and all foreign countries;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exchange for good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, ASSIGNORS hereby sell, assign and transfer unto said ASSIGNEE the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention, said application and any and all letters patent which may be granted for said invention in the United States of America and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries, and in any and all divisions, reissues and continuations thereof, including the right to file foreign applications directly in the name of ASSIGNEE and to claim priority rights deriving from said United States application to which said foreign applications are entitled by virtue of international convention, treaty or otherwise, said invention, application and all letters patent on said invention to be held and enjoyed by ASSIGNEE and its successors and assigns for their use and benefit and of their successors and assigns as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by ASSIGNORS had this assignment, transfer and sale not been made. ASSIGNORS hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue all letters patent on said invention to ASSIGNEE. ASSIGNORS agree to execute all instruments and documents required for the making and prosecution of applications for

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United States and foreign letters patents on said invention, for litigation regarding said letters patent, or for the purpose of protecting title to said invention or letters patent therefor.

Executed at Redmond (city), WA (state), this 12<sup>th</sup>  
day of February, 19 99.

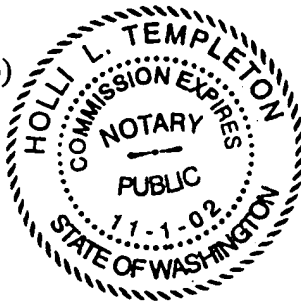
~~Dean A Slayson~~

STATE OF WASHINGTON )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF KING )

I certify that I know or have satisfactory evidence that Dean A. Slawson is the person who appeared before me, and said person acknowledged that he signed this instrument and acknowledged it to be his free and voluntary act for the uses and purposes mentioned in the instrument.

Dated: 2.12.99

(Seal or stamp)



Signature Holli L. Templeton  
Notary Public  
My appointment expires 11-1-02

\*\*\*\*\*

Executed at Redmond (city), WA (state), this 2nd  
day of February, 19 99.

# Tjeerd Hoek

STATE OF WASHINGTON )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF KING )

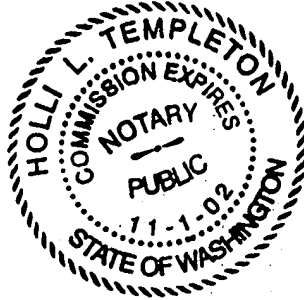
I certify that I know or have satisfactory evidence that Tjeerd Hoek is the person who appeared before me, and said person acknowledged that he signed this instrument and

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acknowledged it to be his free and voluntary act for the uses and purposes mentioned in the instrument.

Dated: 2-2-99

(Seal or stamp)



MK:jla

Holli L. Templeton  
Signature  
Notary Public  
My appointment expires 11-1-02

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ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, I, Eric L. Brechner (hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNOR), having a residence address of 22508 N.E. 140<sup>th</sup> Way, Woodinville, Washington 98072, am a joint inventor of an invention entitled "VISUAL THESAURUS," as described and claimed in the specification forming part of an application for United States letters patent Application No. 09/224,009, filed December 31, 1998;

WHEREAS, Microsoft Corporation (hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNEE), a corporation of the State of Washington having a place of business at One Microsoft Way, Redmond, WA 98052, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention and in and to any letters patent that may be granted therefor in the United States and in any and all foreign countries;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exchange for good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, ASSIGNOR hereby sells, assigns and transfers unto said ASSIGNEE, the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention, said application and any and all letters patent which may be granted for said invention in the United States of America and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries, and in any and all divisions, reissues and continuations thereof, including the right to file foreign applications directly in the name of ASSIGNEE and to claim priority rights deriving from said United States application to which said foreign applications are entitled by virtue of international convention, treaty or otherwise, said invention, application and all letters patent on said invention to be held and enjoyed by ASSIGNEE and its successors and assigns for their use and benefit and of their successors and assigns as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by ASSIGNOR had this assignment, transfer and sale not been made. ASSIGNOR hereby authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue all letters patent on said invention to ASSIGNEE. ASSIGNOR agrees to execute all instruments and documents required for the making and prosecution of applications for United States and foreign letters patent on said invention, for litigation regarding said letters patent, or for the purpose of protecting title to said invention or letters patent therefor.

Executed at Redmond, Washington, this 2 day of OCTOBER, 2000.



Eric L. Brechner

STATE OF WASHINGTON           )  
  ) ss.  
COUNTY OF KING            )

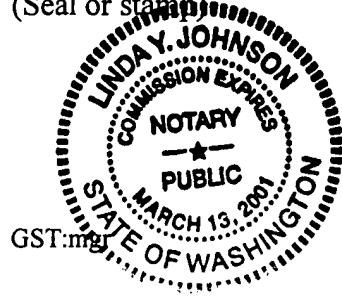
I certify that I know or have satisfactory evidence that **Eric L. Brechner** is the person who appeared before me, and said person acknowledged that he signed this instrument and

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acknowledged it to be his free and voluntary act for the uses and purposes mentioned in the instrument.

Dated: 10-2-00

(Seal or stamp)



Linda Y. Johnson  
Signature  
Printed Name: Linda Y. Johnson  
Notary Public  
My appointment expires 3-13-2001

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**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY  
IN PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe that I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter that is claimed and for which patent is sought on the invention entitled: VISUAL THESAURUS, the specification of which was filed on December 31, 1998, as United States Patent Application No. 09/224,009.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(c), of any foreign application(s) for patent listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed: NONE

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(d), of any inventor's certificate listed below. I declare that, upon investigation, I am satisfied that to the best of my knowledge, when filing the application for the inventor's certificate I had the option to file an application for either a patent or an inventor's certificate as to the subject matter of the identified claim or claims forming the basis for the claim of priority: NONE

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e), of any United States provisional application(s) listed below: NONE

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120, of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States listed below, and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a), which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application: NONE


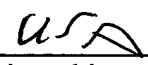
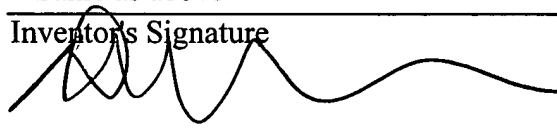
I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Bruce E. O'Connor, Reg. No. 24,849; Lee E. Johnson, Reg. No. 22,946; Gary S. Kindness, Reg. No. 22,178; James W. Anable, Reg. No. 26,827; James R. Uhlir, Reg. No. 25,096; Jerald E. Nagae, Reg. No. 29,418; Dennis K. Shelton, Reg. No. 26,997; Jeffrey M. Sakoi, Reg. No. 32,059; Ward Brown, Reg. No. 28,400; Robert J. Carlson, Reg. No. 35,472; Marcia S. Kelbon, Reg. No. 34,358; Rodney C. Tullett, Reg. No. 34,034; Daiva K. Tautvydas, Reg. No. 36,077; Mary L. Čulić, Reg. No. 40,574; and the firm of Christensen O'Connor Johnson & Kindness<sup>PLLC</sup>. Address all telephone calls to Gary S. Kindness at telephone No. 206.695.1702.

I hereby grant the following attorneys and/or agents an associate power of attorney with full power to prosecute this application and transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Katie E. Sako, Reg. No. 32,628; Daniel D. Crouse, Reg. No. 32,022.

Address all correspondence to:

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON & KINDNESS<sup>PLLC</sup>  
1420 Fifth Avenue  
Suite 2800  
Seattle, WA 98101-2347

I hereby further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

	
Full Name of Inventor	Citizenship
Dean A. Slawson	U.S.A.
Residence	
21016 N.E. 15 <sup>th</sup> Street, Redmond, Washington 98053	
Post Office Address	
Same as above	
Inventor's Signature	Date
	10/18/2000



Full Name of Inventor

Tjeerd Hoek

Citizenship

The Netherlands

Residence

6752 Lake Washington Boulevard, Kirkland, Washington 98033

Post Office Address

Same as above

Inventor's Signature

Date

9-28-2000

Full Name of Inventor

Eric L. Brechner

Citizenship

U.S.A.

Residence

140<sup>th</sup> St  
22508 N.E. 149<sup>th</sup> Way, Woodinville, Washington 98072

Post Office Address

Same as above

Inventor's Signature

Date

Oct. 2, 2000

GSK:mgr